

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 /103 W

----- 004612

R 261242Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3518

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, FR

SUBJECT: ILO DG ON VISIT TO PARIS

1. FRANCIS BLANCHARD, ILO DG, IN PARIS FOR ONE DAY (25 SEPT) TO ATTEND CLOSING SESSION OF THREE-WEEK TRAINING COURSE FOR 25 AFRICAN LABOR LEADERS ORGANIZED BY FORCE OUVRIERE, HOSTED WORKING LUNCH WITH FOLLOWING GUESTS: A. PARODI, OHEIX, OF LABOR MINISTRY; BROCHARD OF FOREIGN OFFICE; WALINE OF EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION; LAVAL OF FO; IRVING BROWN OF AFL-CIO; AND LABATT.

2. PURPOSE OF LUNCH WAS TO GIVE BLANCHARD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REPORT ON HIS RECENT TWO-WEEK VISIT TO THE U.S. AND TO STIMULATE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS ON AFL-CIO

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PROPOSAL THAT USG GIVE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO.

3. BLANCHARD WAS SATISFIED WITH HIS U.S. TRIP BECAUSE IT GAVE HIM OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT TO HIGH AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, HIS REASONS FOR ADVISING AGAINST US NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL, BUT ALSO TO LISTEN TO THOSE WHO FAVOR SUCH ACTION. HE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED LONG DISCUSSION HE HAD ON THIS SUBJECT WITH LANE KIRKLAND OF AFL-CIO.

4. BROWN REMINDED GROUP THAT AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT HAS BEEN THE MOST ACTIVE AND UNWAVERING SUPPORTER OF ILO SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT, AND THAT IDEA OF NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL CAN BE CHALLENGED ONLY IN TERMS OF ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS WHICH CAN BE SUGGESTED TO ACCOMPLISH THE BASIC PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING ILO AS A TRIPARTITE TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION.

5. SENSING THAT DISCUSSION ABOUT MERITS OR DEMERITS OF WITHDRAWAL IDEA WAS GETTING NOWHERE, BLANCHARD PROPOSED THAT GOF AT THE LABOR MINISTER LEVEL TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO ORGANIZE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON AN ACTION PROGRAM WHICH WOULD BRING ABOUT THE IMPROVEMENTS WHICH THE U.S. IS SEEKING. ADDRESSING THE GOF REPRESENTATIVES, BLANCHARD SOUGHT TO CONVINCE THEM ON THE USEFULNESS IF NOT INDISPENSABILITY OF SUCH INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS IN THE INTEREST OF ILO AND OF THE WESTERN WORLD. HE THOUGHT THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS SHOULD INVOLVE U.S., GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN, AND CANADA, PERHAPS ALSO BELGIUM FOR THE BENELUX COUNTRIES.

6. GOF REPRESENTATIVES WERE PERSONALLY RECEPTIVE AND UNDERTOOK TO BRING BLANCHARD'S SUGGESTION TO LABOR MINISTER'S ATTENTION. BROWN THOUGHT THE IDEA WORTH PURSUING AND LABATT REMAINED NONCOMMITTAL. AT ONE POINT THE QUAI REPRESENTATIVE WONDERED IF THE EC-9 COULD NOT BE CALLED UPON TO PLAY A ROLE IN THIS

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INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 ABF-01 OMB-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3519

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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CONNECTION.

7. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, BLANCHARD SAID THAT HE IS CONFIDENT FRG AND JAPANESE ASSESSMENTS FOR CY75 WILL BE PAID SOON. HE ADDED THAT THE DELAY IN PAYMENTS BY THESE TWO COUNTRIES FORCED ILO TO RESORT TO INTERNAL BORROWING TO MEET SEPTEMBER PAYROLL. LUNCH CONCLUDED WITH EXPRESSION OF HOPE BY BLANCHARD THAT DURING HIS NEXT VISIT TO THE U.S. IN OCTOBER HE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND GEORGE MEANY.

8. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT GOF WILL BE WILLING AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABLE TO PLAY THE ROLE SUGGESTED BY BLANCHARD. FOR ONE THING, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DIVISION WITHIN GOF ON SOME KEY SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE U.S. THERE IS, FOR EXAMPLE, A VOCAL MINORITY GROUP IN THE LABOR AND FOREIGN MINISTRIES WHICH SEES SOME MERIT IN SOME OF THE PROPOSALS OF THE THIRD WORLD CONCERNING ILO STRUCTURE. THE WAY THINGS LOOK FROM PARIS, WHAT SEEMS TO BE NEEDED IS MORE RATHER THAN LESS FORMALITY IN THE CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE "MOST INDUSTRIALIZED ILO MEMBERS" TO COMPEL THEM TO ASSUME, FOR THE RECORD,

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR DECISION AND ACTIONS WHICH
ARE LIKELY TO AFFECT THE FUTURE OF ILO.
RUSH

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